THE TREPAN

BEING

A true RELATION, full of ſtupendious variety, of the ſtrange practiſes of *Mehetabel* the Wife of *Edward Jones*, and *Elizabeth* Wife of Lieutenant *John Pigeon*, Siſter to the ſaid *Mehetabel*, being both QUAKERS. Wherein is Diſcovered The ſubtil Method whereby they Cheated Mr. *Weſſel Goodwin*, a Dyar in Southwark, and all his Children of a fair Eſtate: With ſundry Copies of Letters, perfumed Locks of Hair, and Verſes they ſent him, and many other notable devices Belonging to

The ART of *TREPANNING*.

By SAMUEL VERNON.

For by means of a Whoriſh Woman, a man is brought to a piece of bread, and the Adultereſs will hunt for the precious life. Prov. 6. 26.

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To the READER.

READER,

HAppily thou art a meer ſtranger to this ſtory, and haſt neither ſeen nor heard any thing of the former printed Relation; for thy ſake therefore I thought fit to prefix this Introduction, that ſo thou maieſt have a clear and orderly knowledge of the moſt material paſſages from the beginning: Be pleaſed then to take notice that Mr. Weſſel Goodwin, late of Southwark Dyar, having a vertuous wife and four dutiful Children, a fair Eſtate of about 2000. l. and a profitable Trade, wherein he hath cleared 3, 4, 500. l. per ann. all charges defrayed; I ſay, this Mr. Goodwin was much addicted to Muſick, and this Recreation drew him many years agone into the familiarity of Mr. Edw. Jones, an excellent teacher of the Lute; who having a ſubtil wife, & ſhe a more ſubtil ſiſter, the now wife of Lieut. John Pigeon, for whoſe Character I refer thee to the enſuing Relation: Theſe two cunning ſiſters finding this fond old man Mr. Goodwin's temper eaſie to be abuſed, and having the opportunity of his daily coming to Mr. Jones to hear his muſick, & conſidering his eſtate, which yet they judged far greater than it was, & his trade likely ſtill to encreaſe it, about 10. years agone they laid the ground-work of this famous Trepan, to get into their hands all this eſtate, trade, & whatever thereunto appertained as their own, which ſince they have effected, to the utter ruine of the ſaid Mr. Goodwin and all his Children; the manner

Mr. Goodwin *being a man professing Religion, they put on a great seeming shew of Holiness, whereby they with fained words stole into the very heart of this poor old man, and then made merchandize of him, & finding his wife a judicious discreet woman, not to be gained neither with the lute nor the musick of their deceitful tongues, they secretly insinuate to* Mr. Goodwin *that his wife did not shew that duty & respect as she ought, but aimed to govern her Husband, though all the neighborhood will justifie her to have been a most vertuous woman, & a faithful, loving, respectful wife; how far they prevailed with this device to make division between them, is well known to some, but seeing they are both dead, I forbear any mention, but* Doct. Mayerne *her Physician told me, that the Disease she died of was Grief; she died,* ann. 1647. *and very opportunely for their purpose. A little before her death, with the help of some friends, she prevailed upon him to take his eldest son* Andrew *into Partnership with him, who having newly married a vertuous young maid of good Parentage, might be a stay and comfort to the old man after her decease. Well,* Mrs. Goodwin *is dead, &* Mr. Goodwin *now more then ever frequents* Pauls-alley *in* Red cross-street, *the place of these two sisters abode, now they begin to act strongly, and close first with him in this manner, they tell him* Mr. Jones *is a wicked man, and in the sight of God no husband, having forfeited his interest, & she free to marry whom she please, & having muffled this shallow old mans conscience by many subtil insinuating devices, draw him first into a league of love with her, then for the fairer carrying on of the business,* Mr. Howard Knowles *is implored to draw a Bill of Divorce*

between Mr. Jones *and his wife, although he had lived* 18. *years in lawful wedlock with her, and she have by him* 5 *Children: then by many practises they endeavor one while to perswade Mr.* Jones *to be gone beyond Sea, Mrs.* Pigeon *offering him a sum of money if he would so do; but that failing, they arrest him in fained actions & cast him in Prison, & by those practises so afflicted him, that at last he yielded to quit the City, and so went into* Norfolk, *where to this day he abideth.*

Mrs. Goodwin *and Mr.* Jones *thus removed, the game playes fair, now Mr.* Goodwin *is there day & night, nothing but dalliance & entertainments, carrying them into the Country, spending his own & his son & partners estate upon them, now they possess him at pleasure, cause him at two several times to make his Will, wherein he gave to Mrs.* Jones 600. *l. that so they might have that for a Pledge in case he died before the Design were perfect; one of which Wills at the request of Mr.* Goodwin, *by the direction of* Mrs. Pigeon, *was drawn at the* Mewse *by Lieut.* Pigeon, *husband to the said* Elizabeth, *though much against his mind, but to buy his peace with his imperious wife: & the other by Mr.* H. Coleborn, *Scrivener, at his house in* Budge Rowe. *And here having mentioned* Mr. Pigeon, *I must give you a brief accompt what life he leads with this projecting woman, who being thus active for her sister, you may imagine is not idle for her self; she was formerly the widow of one Mr.* Starkey *an Apothecary at* London-stone, *whose death (as she hath since confessed to* Mr. Pigeon) *she procured; soon after she married Lieut.* Pigeon, *then an Officer in the Army, a man of good parts and a fair estate; shortly after their marriage she woes him to*

make her a promise upon Oath, in case he died, to give her all his estate; which he for good reasons refusing, she peremptorily refuseth him her Bed, and yet at the same time uses all the amorous practices she could imagine, plyes him with high provocative meats & drinks to inflame; and then after all, Will you swear to give me all? if you will not, if you touch me I will cry murder: By these and many other practises, not fit to be mentioned, at the last she obtained her end, and prevailed with him to make over all his estate to Hen. Coleborn, and some other persons in trust for her: and whereas by this he thought he had won her for ever, she now is more insolent then before; now she makes him a drudg in all her projects, and if he stick at any thing, then two Beds, and then if you touch me I will cry murder; and now consults with her Confessor Mr Knowls how she may be divorced from him; til at last Mr. Pigeon overcome with their Practices, gave some words to Mr. Knowls, which occasioned a fray, in which Mr Knowls, Mrs Pigeon and some rude persons that Knowles called in were soundly beaten; but this beating they so improved, that at a Court-martial they procured Mr. Pigeon to be cashiered the Army, and imprisoned; and to make all yet surer, she with some persons fit for her purpose makes Oath before the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal, That she went in danger of her life, and so obtained a Writ of Special Supplicavit, which she kept dormant by her, to awe him from coming neer or disturbing of her, and so Mr. Pigeon quit of imprisonment, with-draws also into the Countrey: Now they carry all before them, all things favour them, now they ply Mr. Goodwin to take heed of his Children; now they

draw all Mr. Goodwins servants into their confederacy, excepting on Roger Crey that deteſted their practiſes, he falls ſuddenly ſick, they Phyſick him, and boaſting of their Skill, charge his maſter to uſe no other Phyſician, and that he counterfeited, till the Diſeaſe grew ſo high, that Andrew Goodwin privately carried his Water to Doctor Burnet, who ſaid he was a dead man, and that he died for want of means in time, & accordingly that night he died in their hands.

Another obſtacle was young Mrs. Goodwin, who hath often, before good witneſs, affirmed, That her heart was broke with their wicked practiſes, in making diſſention between Father and Son, and the apprehenſion of the Ruine ſhe ſaw coming upon the Family; but the Grand Rub in the Project was Andrew Goodwin; whom they ſought all ways imaginable to caſt out of Partnerſhip, by daily exaſperating his Father againſt him, by breaking open his Counting-houſe and Trunks in his abſence, Mrs. Pigeon ſending for the Smith, and cauſing him in the old mans name to do it, and taking thence all his Papers and Accompts; then cauſing Mr. Goodwin to imploy one Mr. Lewis an able Accomptant, to make up the Accompts between Father and Son in order to his caſting out and their getting in, to whom as the ſaid Mr. Lewis affirmed before the Commiſsioners, ſhe offered 30. l. as a Bribe, if he would ſo draw up the Accompt as that Andrew might have nothing in the Stock, and ſo be caſt out as a Bankrupt: And the better to colour their coming in, which they were now ready for, they draw into their ſnare James Goodwin the youngeſt ſon, a ſilly ſchool-boy, who was then fitting to be put to prentice; this Boy they having firſt prin-

cipled, draw into a marriage with Mrs. Jones her eldest daughter, as meer a Child as he, and presently they are married, and so these two successful projecting sisters with their Children and Servants come all to inhabite at the Dye-house, where now they bestir them: they first warn Andrew, the Partner, to depart the house within 14. dayes, Mrs. Pigeon telling him, She never undertook any Design but she brought it to perfection: the 14. dayes expired, being in November, 1653. about mid-night, they send out their engine, James Goodwin, for two Sergeants, and two Bayliffs they had hired, having before entred an Action of 1000. l. against the said Andrew for pretended breach of Covenants, these Officers are brought in as theeves over the ditch, Andrew having the Keyes of the Gate in his Chamber where he was fast asleep in bed, Mrs. Pigeon brings them up, furnishes them with an Iron Crow; and the Door proving difficult to be forced, she cryes, Mr. Goodwin, Let them break down the Wall, it is your own House; so they seized and carried him away to Prison, and then by assignements, and bills of sale from old Mr. Goodwin, and such like devices, with Mr. Hen. Coleborn's help, she got possession and title to Mr. Goodwins and his Sons whole Estate; what followed you will finde in the ensuing Relation, and the Report drawn up by the Worshipful Commissioners, by Order of His Highness the Lord Protector, to which I refer you.

THE TREPAN.

IN the precedent Relation of Mistris *Jones* and Mistris *Pigeons* practises, you have seen them by many subtile and wicked steps, become possessors of all old Mr. *Goodwins* and his Sons Estate: While old Mrs. *Goodwin* was alive, they wrought at a distance, drawing from the old man, now and then, sums of ten, twenty, thirty pounds at a time, as upon Oath hath been witnessed; besides much good Provision he supplied them withal, both for back and belly. But she, now dead, this would not satisfie them, they saw they had an admirable subject, and that encouraged them to a higher design: An old man, that though he had a weak head, yet an obstinate will; a man, though inexorable to the faithful counsel of true friends, especially if it thwarted his appetite, yet more facil than a Child to yield to the seductions of glavering Flatterers; for which trade these two Sisters are most exquisitely qualified: and to all this they had the advantage of many years acquaintance, had studied his Temper, and could work him to their pleasure.

In brief, by many deceitful ſtratagems, which the unwary old man perceived not, they wrought him, as you have heard, to make a ſinful adultrous Contract of Marriage with Miſtris *Jones*, to give her by Will a great part of his Eſtate, to a moſt unnatural hatred of all his dutiful Children, to betray his Son *James*, a child, into marriage with *Lydia Jones*, a mear child alſo, that ſo they might have entrance into the houſe to caſt out his Son and Partner *Andrew* in a moſt inhumane manner; and in fine, by Judgments, Bills of Sale, Aſſignments, and ſuch practiſes, to make over all his own, and his Sons Eſtate, to Mr. *Henry Coleborn* for the uſe of *Elizabeth Pigeon*; who thereupon takes Poſſeſſion of the Houſe, Stock, and Trade, utterly excluding *Andrew* and the reſt of the Children from an Eſtate of 2000 l. which Mr. *Goodwin*, by aſſiſtance of a provident Wife, had been almoſt 40. years labouring for.

Thus far the former Relation gives you account; now I proceed to a Diſcovery of what they have ſince acted, wherein (beſides my promiſe not to prevaricate from the truth) the Reader ſhall have ſuch unqueſtionable proofs as will ſilence all Cavils; and ſtranger things than theſe you hear not often.

But firſt I muſt here give you an account of Mr. *Edward Jones*: In the former Relation you have ſeen how after five years abſence from *London*, being conſtrained in his affections, he comes to *London*; and going to *Pauls* Alley to ſee his Children, was, by theſe two ſiſters procurement, in five ſeveral Actions, in all to the value of about 1000. l. arreſted and caſt into priſon, though of all this he owed not one penny, and of divers of thoſe men, whoſe names they had uſed, had never ſeen their faces: There he continued many months, and had he not been ſupplied by his Tenants in St. *Johns-ſtreet*, muſt there have periſhed.

During his impriſonment, they often ſend his Children to him, who are inſtructed to ask him enſnaring queſtions, that ſo they may feel how he reſents his Condition: and when they found him (as they thought) indifferently mortified, then they endeavour to draw him to their wicked

Condi-

Conditions: the chief of which were, First, That he make over all his Estate to his Wife by Trustees; and, Secondly, and chiefly, That he immediately depart the City with engagement to return no more, that so she might be free for old Mr. *Goodwin*: The first part he enclined to upon Conditions; but the second he utterly rejected, and so the Treaty broke off: And now Mr. *Jones* somewhat encouraged by the honesty of some of his Tenants, who supplied him with the Arrears of the Rent due five years in their hands, ever since his departure; all which Mistris *Jones* might have received Quarterly upon Mr. *Jones* his Acquittances which he sent her from *Norwich*, but she utterly refused, because by those Receipts she must acknowledge Mr. *Jones* to be her Husband: and Mr. *Goodwins* purse being then full, she let the Rents (as aforesaid) rest in their hands which proved happily for Mr. *Jones* in this Condition. And now observing Mr. *E. C.* the Counsellour to be very active with these two Sisters; and judging that it must be upon some Consideration that a person of Mr. *C*'s rank should so intereſt himself in his Wives Cause, he procured a trusty Friend to go to Mr. *C* his house at *Marybone*, who there saw several parcels of Mr. *Jones* his Goods in a Parlour, *viz.* Two ancient Pictures of value; but not being admitted into any other Room, he cannot tell what there was more, but these he knoweth to have been Mr. *Jones* his Goods. Whereupon Mr. *Jones* exhibited a Bill in Chancery against Mistris *Pigeon*, Mr. *C.* and several others for the examination of the Counterfeit Actions he was Arrested for, and the Discovery of his Goods; and by this means got a Release of those Counterfeit Actions, and was quitted and immediately went again into the Country: During this unjust imprisonment, he spent almost 80 l. which he affirmed he intended to divide every penny amongst his Children. And so concluded that Trepan, with losse and disgrace to the two Sisters.

And here having made this degression, I shall also insert the Trepaning of one *Esay Aspinwal* by Mistris *Pigeon*: He was some years since Apprentice to one Mr. *Hardy* a Salter

neer *Guild-hall*, and now living in *Lambeth*. Near to this youth there lived a Maid-servant, one *Mary Northcote*, aged about 30 yeares; this wench leaving her Service, was after entertained by Mistris *Pigeon*: where after a while Mistris *Pigeon* over-hearing her in the night to Sigh and Groan much, she tells her Husband she must know what this meant; Mr. *Pigeon* checking her pragmatick nature, still prying into the secrets of others, dissuaded her all he could, but she vowed she would know: and to be short, the next day got this Wench into her Inquisition, and never left raking in her Conscience till she discovered to her, There had been some love between the said young man and she; and further confessed, That he had layen with her above forty times, and had promised her marriage. Whereupon Mistris *Pigeon* sends for the young man; Mr. *Pigeon* still dissuading her from medling in this matter, and advising her rather to turn her away: but she replyes, You are a fool; Now will I have out of this Wench what Service I please: the young man came, she Catechises him into a Confession, causes him to write and subscribe it, and so dismisses him; who having after some few years finished his apprentiship, and set up a little Shop for himself, which Mistris *Pigeon* informed of, sends for the young man, and having beforehand all her instruments in readiness, demands of him if he will now marry her Maid? The young man replyes, That he was new set up, his Stock small, and did not yet see how he should subsist with a Wife, and therefore desires some respite: But Mistris *Pigeon* not thus satisfied, gives the Trepan-watch-word, and presently two Sergeants appear, who hale him away to a Tavern in *Wood-street* to capitulate, where Mistris *Pigeon* follows; the poor young man by this time had sent for his Brother, a Country-man in Town, who hearing the Case, and seeing into what hands his Brother was fallen, over-come with grief before he could utter himself, swelled so, that the very buttons burst from his doublet, and at last fell into a most bitter lamentation; and then representing to Mistris *Pigeon* his Brothers youth, his Fathers affection to this Son, who so soon as he should hear of this,

(being

(being an antient godly Gentleman in the Country) would die with grief, and therefore beg'd, that rather than ingage him in this unequal scandalous match, he might make her some reasonable satisfaction with Money; (which was the word Mistris *Pigeon* watcht for) she demanded 500. l. for a Dowry to this old crackt Vastal, for whom a clean Whip had been a fitter recompence for seducing a poor youth to such wickedness: But the Brother urging his Fathers poverty, and the unreasonableness of such a Sum; in short, to rescue his Fathers grey hairs from the grave, and Mistris *Pigeon* being informed that their Father had given him and his Brother 50. l. a peice, she urged, that if they would give her all, he should go quit; which at last they yielded to, and Bonds were sealed, and after a short time the Money paid to Mistris *Pigeon*, to the utter undoing of both these young men; the said *Esay* not able by this means to keep open his Shop, went away, and could never since be heard of: Fifty pounds of this Money was bestowed in marriage with this flawed piece to a Shooe-maker, one Mr. *Cheval*, next to *Algate* under *London*-Wall: and for the other 50. l. whether Mistris *Pigeon* have since given to this huswife, or (as is most probable) reserved in her own hands for Brocage, is uncertain: and so also concluded that *Trepan*. And now I return to the main story.

Mistris *Pigeon* now in possession of all Mr. *Goodwins* and his Sons Estate, casts about how she may improve it, and make it a standing thievery; she first plods to all the Customers, and with her dissembling pretences, alleging all is still done for the good of old Mr. *Goodwin*, prevailed with some to continue their Work to the house, and some new Customers are acquired, as Mr. *John Gold* of *Clapham* their very great friend. And because some scrupled the safety of their Goods, she procures Mr. *Coleborn* to give his security, as he, in whose Name she bought and sold, retained and discharged all, and *Christmass* now at hand, that being the usual time of Payments, she hastens and importunes them to pay into Mr. *Coleborn* the last years Money, about 1200. l. and earned in the Partner-ship, who gives them Discharges;

and

and encouraged with the visible gains she saw in that Trade, she plyes it on all hands, while Mistris *Jones* (a heavier piece) acts her part with old Mr. *Goodwin* to keep him in a good humour; now that he and his Children are stript of all; but active Mistris *Pigeon* is every where at the Merchants for Work, at the Salters for Wares, prying and watching that the Servants shall get no vayls, except honest Mr. *Anthony Rawlin* that for former good services must be a little connived at.

In the mean time, that *Andrew* may not disturbe her, one while she threatnes to bring him to Tryal of the 1000.l. Action she had formerly caused him to be Arrested in: Another while commends his good nature, but seduced by his wicked Brother *Vernon*: and now having settled all, she thinks she may a little retire her self, partly to attend other Projects, and partly to abate the clamour of people that speak of her and her Sister *Jones*, as those that had Cheated Mr. *Goodwin* and all his Children of all. Mistris *Jones* then is left *in deposito*, yet Mistris *Pigeon* between whiles comes in her Hackney Coach to take accompts, and see how all is managed: and thus she runs through 1654. and part of 1655. boasting of her great Gain. But now the Trade began to sink a pace, and they as fast in their reputation, nor could they with all their art keep on the paint which daily peeled off from their bold deluding faces: which Mistris *Pigeon* observing, and well knowing that the Dyers Trade, if not supplied with Work, is rather fit to bring her behind hand, than to advance her; she therefore in a manner quite with-draws both her purse and presence, leaving *Michetabel* to help up the old man; but she that by this time saw through her sisters Craft, who had used her only as a bait to Catch old Mr. *Goodwin*, while Mistris *Pigeon* caught the Estate, and had now secured it under Mr. *Coleborns* Name to her own use, and being now unwilling to abide all the reproach, while her sister had all the gain, she also with-draws to the old Den in *Pauls-Alley*, where her sister leads her a sad life.

But in what a case now is old Mr. *Goodwin*, bereaved of Estate,

Estate, Trade, Credit, and which he values more than all, of the Company of his two precious friends; now must he to his old march again to *Red-Crosse-street*, where he often comes, but finds not his former entertainment: when the two sisters used to come and meet him at the Garden-door with How do you, dear Sir, precious Mr. *Goodwin*? Very well, I thank you: Indeed Sir you are not well: Indeed I am very well: Indeed, Sir, you are not, the Lord knows you are not well, you look as if you were not well: Indeed I am very well: Are you indeed? Then the Lord be praised: and this with such accent and gesture, as made the poor old mans bowels and brains melt within him; and then out came the Capon, and the stuffs, and then nothing but merriment mixed with, Dear Sir, have a special care of your Son *Andrew* that he do not undo you; and be sure you take no Counsel of your Children, for that were to be ruled by your Cradle: Thus would they draw this poor inconsiderate old man into their snare under pretence of Love and care of his Person: but the Fish once caught, off goes the bait. Now that all is in their hands, and that he comes to them stript, with his empty pockets hanging out, now nothing but quarrelling and cavilling questions about the Trade, railing because he goes not amongst the Customers for Work, quarrelling at every word he saith; and when he shews her how they are necessitated for Money and Wares, she having drawn all dry, and that he and the Servants are fain to take up Wares and Provisions upon their own Credit, then like one of King *Pharaoh's* Tax masters that would have them make Bricks or Money without straw; she tells him plainly she will pay none of his Debts, and bids him work for his living.

About this time Mr. *Henry Coleborn*, Mistris *Pigeons* great Friend that had sheltered her wicked Projects, falls very sick of a strange Disease, the Physitians doubt him, and send him to *Tunbridge*, there he grows worse and worse, and perceiving himself not like to live, he comes back for *London*; Diligent Mistris *Pigeon* meets him upon the Road about the mid-way, and by her feined care of his welfare, never leaves

till

till she have perswaded him into her Coach, and so bring him to take up his Lodging at the Rat-trap in *Pauls-alley*: The pretence of his coming there was, that he might be out of the noise of businesse: but the design that she might perfect some Projects that she had in her head, whereof one was to have made a Match between his only Son and her Daughter; but that failing, her next great businesse is, that he assign over all the trust both of Mr. *Pigeons* annd Mr. *Goodwins* Estates to her Brother *Edward Thorold*, a shallow harmlesse creature of himself, whom she had sent for out of *Lincoln-shire* to supply that part; her Trade being just like the Cut-purses, that when he hath done his feat in a throng, he hath his bone setters at hand to receive the Purse and convey it away.

Mr. *Coleborn* had not been there long, but he extremly dislikes both his entertainers and entertainment, and was often heard say with much passion, Oh that I were out of this house, these be strange women! I suppose he meant in *Solomons* sense; These women (quoth he) are a delusion, pray let me go to *Betty*. (a kinswoman he had at *Darking*) but Mistris *Pigeon* kept him so long vexing his heart with her Conveyances and Assignments, that he could not be removed, but there expired to the shame and grief of all his friends, many of whom (for the very dislike of that infamous house) would not come to his burial; and to the wonder of all men that so Politick a man as Mr. *Coleborn* should suffer himself, in that last act of his Life, to be so *Trepand* into disgrace.

Presently after Mr. *Coleborns* Death, came Mr. *Pigeon* to Town, who appears like one from another world, having with much patience for four years born all his Wives insolencies, and seeing no amendment, but that every day she grew more violent and mischievous, (as appeared by the late ruine of Mr. *Goodwin* and his Children, and now awakened with his own wrongs, and the cryes of Mr. *Goodwins* Children) he resolves once more to take her into his custody, and try if he can yoke this untamed Heifer: in short, he appears with a Coach and four Horses, and half a dozen Servants,

Servants, and having ſufficient authority, enters this Dragons den, ſeizes and fairly conducts her into the Coach, and ſo carries her into the Country to his houſe; all the ſtreet looking on, and rejoycing at the riddance (as they hoped) of ſuch a troubleſome neighbor.

To tell you her behaviour by the way, her throwing a glaſs of Wine into Mr. *Pigeons* Brothers face, while ſhe bowed and made ſhew as if ſhe would drink to him; her crying Murther, and accuſing her ſelf to have ſpoke Treaſon againſt the Lord Protector; her confeſſing herſelf a Whore, and deſiring the Juſtice to ſend her to *Bridewel*; her affirming Mr. *Pigeon* to be none of her Huſband, and Doctor *Homes* that married them, a knave: and many other ſuch freaks, would be tedious: But this I muſt not omit, at her firſt nights lodging on the way, Mr. *Pigeon* took her in private, and began to this effect; Wife (quoth he) have we not yet plaid the fools enough, ſhall we yet proceed in theſe ſcandalous conteſtations, making our ſelves Town talk, ſo that our Children, when grown up, will be aſhamed to own us for their Parents. When ſhe preſently replied, Are you in earneſt, would you have a Reconciliation, fall down at my feet and ask me forgiveneſſe. This, and ſuch-like, was her behaviour. In ſhort, a Juſtice of the Peace, at her requeſt, undertook to draw up an Award between them, the ſubſtance whereof was, That whereas ſhe denyed and diſclaimed Mr. *Pigeon* for her Husband, and no hopes of Reconciliation, he Awarded Mr. *Pigeon* his Land again, and 500. l. in Money, part of his former eſtate; and ſhe to have liberty to return to *London*, and live from Mr. *Pigeon* till they can better agree.

But now Mr. *Goodwins* Children ſeing all deſperate, their Father deaf to all perſwaſions, Reſolve at laſt to Petition His Highneſſe the Lord Protector, who was pleaſed to refer the Buſineſſe to ſeveral worthy Gentlemen in the Burrough of *Southwark*; who preſently ſummon Mr. *Goodwin* and his Women before them; where, to avoid repetition, the ſubſtance of all the former Printed Relation was fully proved, in ſo much that Mr. *Goodwin*, ſeeing how things were

likely to go, went home and presently took his Bed, from whence he never rose more: his sickness caused some intermission of this Examination, and indeed many wayes gave great seeming advantage to the Women as you shall see; and if formerly in his health they plyed him with their pestilent flatteries, now more than ever; so that for six or eight dayes before his death, they were scarce an hour absent (one or other of them) from his Bed-side, with great expressions of seeming tenderness to him, yet scarce suffering his Children to look upon him; and when at any time any of them came to see him, and with bleeding affections minded him of his Spiritual Estate, then, Pray forbear, you trouble your Father, he would fain take his rest; Dear Sir, Do they not trouble you? And knowing that of a long time they had so tutored him, that he durst not answer but as they dictated to him; Mistris *Pigeon* would say, Mr. *Goodwin*, Have I ever wronged you, is it we or your Children that have ruined you? And then comes *Mehetabel*, Dear Sir, Speak as in the sight of God, was I ever Naught with you? was I ever Contracted to you? Thus would they, especially, before such persons as they thought for their purpose, worry this poor dying man, making him spend his last breath (that should have been spent in making his peace with God) in justifying of their wickedness.

The last of *December*, 1655. he departed this life; so soon as he was dead, Mistris *Pigeon* sends for his Children to know if they would bury him; and if not, she would: They asked, Who had his Estate? She replied, Alas! He hath not left one penny: all here is mine. In short, notwithstanding the Children were robb'd of all: they agreed, and so told her, That they would bury him. And Mistris *Vernon* in her haste said, If we bury him, we will know how he came by his death. This word (it seems) stuck with Mistris *Pigeon*, and therefore contrary to this agreement, at Nine of the Clock that night, she sends them word, That she had forgot her self, and now remembred that Mr. *Goodwin* had charged her upon his death-bed, That none of his Children should have any hand in his burial; and that if they came

to

to bury him, she would oppose them: this alarmed the Children, who went that night (though very late) to the Justices of the Borough, from whom they obtained an Order requiring these Women to permit them quietly to have access to the Body, and perform such offices as were requisite. This Order Mistris *Pigeon* peremptorily before good witness refused to obey: and while Mr. *Vernon* went to the Justices to acquaint them with this Contempt of their Order, and was now returned with the Constable, and their Warrant to apprehend and bring them before them, he finds *Andrew* and *Thomas Goodwin* in the Bayliffs hands, Arrested Prisoners, for Trespasse of coming upon Mistris *Pigeons* pretended Ground, and coming to the house, finds the doors barricadoed up, and a peremptory refusal to obey either the Officer or the Warrant: and here I cannot but affirm, That I believe Mr. *Goodwin* died not a natural death, and omitting what might be charged upon them by altering his Diet from wholesome Kitchin-food to Sage-Ale, Marmalade, strong Extracts, which though in this kind sparingly used may be good, yet being turned to a constant Diet must needs destroy Nature and burn up the radical moysture of his body; insomuch that his Apothecary, a judicious skilful man affirmed to me that those excellent Cordials he gave him in his sickness, revived him no more than cold water. I say omitting all this, I judge they were yet more directly instrumental to his death by using some wicked practise upon him to destroy him; and there are these signs, First, That for three or four dayes before his death he constantly complained of a great burning in his bowels: Secondly, His frequent violent retchings to vomit, in one of which retching fits he died; both apparent signs of poyson: that which seems to confirm this, is their refusing to suffer his Children to bury him, or to see the Body, though back'd with the Magistrates Authority. After they once heard their intention to have the Body Dissected, 'tis true, the third day after his death, they sent to the Doctor to tell him that he might come and visit the Body outwardly, but by no means they would not have it opened and Dissected:

if you ask why they ſhould ſo wickedly rid themſelves of their old friend who loved them ſo dearly to his laſt? I anſwer firſt, the trade was now utterly loſt and henceforth he could be but a clog and a reproach to them: Secondly, the trade being gone, and he having no maintenance but from the covetous churliſh hands of Mrs *Pigeon*; & his Children ſtill following him with their prayrs, he might come to have his eyes opened. But laſtly, Mrs *Pigeons* great fear was, that now that the whole project was before the Commiſſioners in Examination, who being judicious quick-ſighted-Gentlemen, and Mr. *Goodwin* being a ſhallow weak man, and perhaps examined privately, might ſo ill manage his Defence as might ſpoyle all; of which ſhe had a ſhrewd example the firſt day of Examination, where when ſhe was accuſed by Mr. *Pigeon* to have brought old Mr. *Goodwin* ſix years agone to the *Mewſe*, and there cauſed him to make his Will, by which he gave by her direction 600.l. to her Siſter *Jones*; which when Miſtris *Pigeon* was Examined upon, ſhe with dreadful aſſeverations and appeals to God, utterly denied; ſaying it was lyes in every circumſtance: yet when Mr. *Goodwin*, who by reaſon of his deafneſſe ſcarce heard what they ſaid, was Examined, whether it were ſo or no, he Confeſſed all, thereby putting a deadly affront upon Miſtris *Pigeon*: adde to this their being conſtantly at his Bed-ſide in his ſickneſſe, not ſuffering, as I ſaid, his Children ſcarce to ſpeak to him; and at one time warning Miſtris *Vernon*, while ſhe was carefully attending her Father, to go off the ground, or they would Arreſt her Husband for Treſpaſſe, whereby they had opportunity to do what they would, and they (ſhe-Doctors or Quack-ſalvers, whereof they have both for many years made profeſſion) preſcribing Phyſick as confidently as if they were Members of the Colledge: Theſe are ſome grounds of my belief, which the Reader may judge of, and the full diſcovery thereof I refer to the great Day. But to return; The door being faſt barred up, and the old man nailed in his Coffin, miſtris *Pigeon* once again falls to new devices: The third day at night, when the body began now to putrifie,

ſhe

ſhe ſends meſſenger after meſſenger at ten of the Clock at night to the Children, requiring them to come and bury the Body, or it ſhould for good and all remain unburied: But they being now adviſed by the Magiſtrate not to proceed, and by the Doctor that it was too late to make Diſſection, the thing they aimed at, they poſitively refuſed. by this proffer miſtris *Pigeon* thinks to take off all ſuſpition of his death, and now ſeeing this Project fail, ſhe reſolves on the ſudden to bury him in ſtate: ſhe invites all the chief of the Pariſh; and amongſt the reſt, forgets not the Worſhipful Commiſſioners, giving them to underſtand they ſhould all be ſerved with Gold Rings and Gloves: but they all, except Mr. *Samuel Hyghland*, (who preſently bit at the bait) with juſt ſcorn rejected this bribing Device: Seventy or Eighty Rings are provided: The Poſie by miſtris *Pigeons* device out of 1 *Cor.*15. *Sown in diſhonor, raiſed in glory.* She can for all purpoſes make uſe of abuſed Scripture to colour her ſin, though at other times ſhe ſaith, ſhe cares not if the Bible were burnt, as was proved; but let any man look on the Context, and ſee any Expoſition that ever was made upon that Scripture, they will find the Apoſtle meant not the leaſt in her ſenſe, but ſpeaks only of the Body, which by death is become a loathſome ſpectacle devoid of all beauty and luſtre. There is another text which with a little of miſtris *Pigeons* ſtrayning, would have done better, viz. *His death to me is Gain.* What think you miſtris *Pigeon* after you had cheated a ſhallow old man of an Eſtate of 2000.l. and when he could do you no more drudgery, to go, or be ſent out of the world, then a parcel of fine Gold Rings, with *Mors mihi lucrum*, would it not have argued your ingenuity? Well, the Fourth day at night was the burial: and Mr. *Goodwins* Children, conſidering all the fore-mentioned paſſages, though invited, refuſed to joyn with them that had brought their Father with ſo much diſgrace to the Grave, but went and attended the Corps at the Grave, which at laſt comes; and next the Corps, in a Coach, Mr. *Hat*, miſtris *Pigeon*, and miſtris *Hat*; whom Politick miſtris *Pigeon* brought with her to be her buckler and awe the people; ſhe having

having of late been several times assaulted by the Boyes, but now look to your selves, here is Mr. *John Hat*, the *Guild-hall* Atturney, that if you be uncivil shall make his Actions of Assault and Battery flie about your ears: yet the people railed upon them all the way, now and then saluting them with handfuls of kennel dirt; and I am perswaded in that emotion of the people, had any of Mr. *Goodwins* Children but held up a finger, they had run great hazard of their lives; there as I am informed was Cousin *Charles Thorold* and his Lady, who followed not as the people after *Absolom*, in the simplicity of their hearts, but in the simpleneſſe of his underſtanding. As for *Mahetabel*, ſhe was ſo overcome with Paſſion, not of Grief for the loſſe of her dear friend, but of fear of the loſing her dear life that ſhe kept under lock and key at the Dye houſe: indeed had ſhe appeared, I think the beſt of her bargain would have been to be ſent to gage the depth of the mud in the mill-pond.

Mr. *Goodwin* buried, the Commiſſioners proceed to a final Examination of the Buſineſſe, and upon the whole, finding clearly how they had cheated Mr. *Goodwin* and all his children, they made a Propoſition to Mrs *Pigeon*, That whereas ſhe pretended the Eſtate hers; firſt, by Aſſignment to Mr. *Colebourn* for her uſe; & then, by his Aſſignment to her Brother *Thorold*; by which, as Mr. *Hat* then pleaded for her, ſhe had a legal Title at Law, which he enforced with all his *Guild-hall* Rethorike, till the Commiſſioners commanded him out of doors, that if ſhe would deliver up the Eſtate as it was when ſhe invaded it, and give a true Accompt as well of her Receipts as Diſburſments, they would repay her all her Charges with 100 l. advantage: which ſhe with ſcorn refuſed, ſaying, It was hers by Law, and by Law ſhe would keep it. So the Examination ended, and the Worſhipful Commiſſioners, according to what was alleaged and proved, drew up a Report of the Caſe to His Highneſs, which is here annexed verbatim, with the Atteſtation of Mr. *Kiffins* Church.

The

The REPORT.

ACcording to your Highneſs Command upon the Reference of Mr. *Goodwins* Childrens Petition unto us, we have ſeveral times Met, and called before us the Perſons concerned in the ſaid Petition, Complainants, Deffendants, Witneſſes; We take leave upon the whole to ſubmit this Accompt unto your Highneſs, as the Reſult of our Conſciencies upon an impartial ſearch.

1. *That there hath been juſt Scandal given to the People of God by the too familiar Converſe of* Weſſel Goodwin (*ſince deceaſed*) *and* Mehetabel *the Wife of* Edward Jones, *when being admoniſhed by the Elders of their reſpective Churches, yet after the ſaid admonitions, and promiſes on their parts of forbearance, they not only came together as before, but juſtified their ſo doing; and that after the Exculſion of them from the Ordinances and Congregations, as is alledged in the Petition.*

2. *For a covering to the ſhame of this evil familiarity, there have been an agreement of Marriage contracted with the aſſiſtance of* Elizabeth Pigeon, *ſiſter to the ſaid* Mehetabel, *between Mr.* Goodwin *and Miſtris* Jones *aforeſaid, and they have endeavoured to prove it lawful, notwithſtanding that Mr.* Jones, *husband to the ſaid* Mehetabel, *be yet alive.*

3. *In Order to the gaining of Mr.* Goodwins *eſtate (which was the Deſign laid between them* 8. *or* 9. *years ſince) by the ſaid Miſtris* Jones *and Miſtris* Pigeon, *they found it requiſite to remove* Andrew Goodwin, *eldeſt Son of* Weſſel Goodwin, *ſetled upon Marriage in partnerſhip with his Father in the Dye-houſe-ſtock and Trade;*

we

we ſay they Outed the ſaid Andrew *by fraud and force in this manner; they brake open his Counting-houſe and Trunks, taking out thence his Accompts & Books whereby he is diſabled to make good his Stock; then they brought an Accomptant to Ballance the Accompts between the Father and Son, and to this Accomptant Miſtris* Pigeon *proffered thirty pounds as a bribe to falſifie the Accompts that no eſtate might be found due to the ſaid* Andrew, *that ſo he might be caſt out of the ſaid partner-ſhip for the ends aforeſaid. Then they proceed to warn the ſaid* Andrew *out of the houſe, which he refuſing to obey, they brought in Bayliffs at midnight and brake open his Chamber door and took him by violence, Miſtris* Pigeon *ſtanding by incouraging and abetting the Bayliffs who haled him thence to priſon; In which extremity the ſaid* Andrew *was forced to confeſs a Judgment to one of his Creditors, to whom he owed one hundred and thirty pounds, whereby part of the eſtate was taken in execution; which being by Miſtris* Pigeons *procurement appraiſed at a very under rate, ſhe brought her friend in truſt to pay down the money; and by other ſubtile practiſes got poſſeſſion of that whole eſtate to the value of above fifteen hundred pounds, and by this means framing a kind of Title by colour of Law doth keep and diſpoſe of this eſtate at her pleaſure, defrauding thereby the Children, your Highneſs Petitioners.*

4. *That we did according to your Highneſs Advice endeavour to compoſe the whole buſineſs impartially according to rules of Juſtice and Conſcience, profering to Miſtris* Pigeon (*ſhe being the chief Patroneſs, Contriver, and Manager of this Project*) *upon her giving us a true Accompt of all her Diſburſments upon the eſtate to repay her all with an advantage.*

But

But all our tenders in behalf of the wronged Petitioners were by her rejected with ſcorn, ſhe pleading her pretended Title and Property by Law.

Now laſtly, Whereas your Highneſs requireth our Opinion in this Caſe, we take leave in this our capacity to declare, That the merits and matter of the Petition are true, and the Petitioners greatly injured, not only by the ſaid Weſſel, *but principally by the two Siſters, Miſtris* Jones *and Miſtris* Pigeon, *who had wholly captivated the weak underſtanding and affections of the ſaid old Mr.* Goodwin *even to his death, and now impudently poſſeſs the whole eſtate; And our Opinion further is, That it were a righteous thing in the ſight of God and man to repair this loſs and injuries upon the ſaid eſtate, and the Uſurpers of it; yea, and that ſomething exemplarily penal be inflicted upon theſe Women, that others may be deterred from the like attempts.*

And ſeeing your Petitioners are utterly diſabled to wage Law, their Adverſaries having the Eſtate, we conceive it a moſt Honorable Work that your Highneſs interpoſe your Authority, that ſome compendious way be taken to determine this buſineſs.

Chriſtopher Searle.
William Cooper.
Cor. Cook.
John Hardwick.

White-hall, March 14. 1655.

His Highneſs referreth this Report to the ſpeedy and ſpecial Conſideration and Order of His Highneſſes Privy Council.

Inſtr. *Nath. Bacon.*

The Atteſtation of Mr. Kiffin's *Church.*

THe Church having by ſeveral Witneſſes heard that Mrs. *Jones* did frequently give entertainment to one Mr. *Goodwin*, did make further enquiry thereinto by ſome Brethren appointed to that end, who ſpeaking to her about it, received this Anſwer, That it was only upon a Chriſtian accompt, they being long acquainted together, having at that time no particular proof of any thing, did at preſent deſiſt any further dealing with her, only ordered ſome Brethren that lived neareſt her to exerciſe more then ordinary watchfulneſs over her; and after ſome time we by them underſtood that ſhe had diſpoſſeſſed her Husband *Jones* of all he had, and was gone into the Country and Mr. *Goodwin* with her; and making further enquiry into her converſation in that matter, had proof that ſhe did uſe very familiar unſeemly carriages to Mr. *Goodwin*, and promiſed that if all things were clear, ſhe would take him to be her Husband; which words and carriages ſhe being dealt withal in the Church for, ſhe denied the carriages, but confeſſed ſhe did uſe words to him to that effect, and with many tears preſented her condition to the Church, touching the evil converſation of her Husband *Jones*; and did promiſe that for time to come, ſhe would not frequent the company of Mr. *Goodwin*; upon which promiſe the Church ſolemnly admoniſhed her, and ſo left it: not long after we underſtood that Miſtris *Jones* did more frequently then ever we heard before, give entertainment to Mr. *Goodwin*, he being daily at her houſe & very late at night, if not all night, which neighbors taking notice of, took occaſion thereby to ſpeak very reproachfully of Profeſſion, to the grief of ſeveral of our Members which lived near her; who reporting the ſame to the Church, ſhe was ſent for by the Church: and when ſhe came and was charged with this Scandalous Converſation, together with her breach of Promiſe, ſhe then laboured to juſtifie her Practiſe; and told the Church, That ſhe had been with ſeveral learned Divines, who had given in their Opinions that ſhe

ſhe was free from the Law of her firſt Husband by the Law of God: We finding her obſtinate in the evils ſhe was charged withal, and reſolved to go on in the ſame without any regard to the honour of God, ſcandal of Religion, or former Engagement, did judge it our duty to caſt her out of the Church, which accordingly was done for the aboveſaid evils. Witneſs our Hands,

George Gosfright. *William Warren.* *William Kiffen.*
William Angel. *John Sowdin.* *John Battey.*

But to draw to a Concluſion, Mr. *Goodwins* Children purſue the Report, and preſent it to His Highneſs with all the Commiſſioners hands, except Mr. *Highland*, who refuſed to ſubſcribe, not (as he affirmed before good witneſs) that he doubted the Fraud, but queſtioned the matter of Scandal; now hereby hangs a tale, but it is an old one, and therefore I forbear. Now the Children having preſented the Report to his Highneſs, who expreſſed a high Reſentment of it, and commanded an extraordinary Order to be drawn referring it to the ſpeedy and ſpecial care of his Highneſs privy Council; who after two months attendance by the Children, were pleaſed to caſt it out, and refer them to the Law: And the Children conſidering Miſtris *Pigeon* is in Poſſeſſion, and they ruined and ſtript of all, do refer it to the Great Judge of Heaven and Earth.

Thus you have ſeen Miſtris *Pigeon* Rampant in all her Projects, which hath ſince emboldened her to a new ſtrange attempt: For obſerving Mr. *Pigeon* very active to aſſiſt Mr. *Goodwins* Children both before the Commiſſioners, and at *White-hal*; firſt ſhe attempts him by M. *Hat*, who adviſed him in preſence of good witneſs, not to meddle to aſſiſt thoſe beggarly people *Goodwins* Children; but ſeeing Mr. *Pigeon* out of an honeſt ſence of their wrongs, not to be taken off, he then threatned him with the Gaol: but Mr. *Pigeon* ſtill purſuing the honeſt Cauſe of the Children, they conſult and at laſt reſolve upon an old Writ of ſpecial *Supplicavit*, long ſince taken out of the *Chancery* upon articles that Mrs. *Pigeon*

and her bold Maid *Mary Maſon*, and one Miſtris *Newton*, had delivered upon Oath; in which they affirm, That ſhe had been grievouſly beaten by Mr. *Pigeon* (*not half enough*) and that ſhe went in danger of her life: and upon theſe Articles they procured the Writ; which directed to the Sheriffs, they iſſue out a Warrant for Mr. *Pigeons* apprehenſion: this they deliver to a hair-braind Sergeant one Capt. *Bunne*, whom they inſtruct; and he contrary to the Warrant which directed him to take Mr. *Pigeon* and carry him before the next Juſtice, and there that he put in ſecurity for the Peace, and ſo be diſcharged: But Cap. *Bunne* who now is in the bryars for his pains, refuſing to carry him before the Magiſtrate, throws him into Priſon, where Mr. *Pigeon* having put in Bayl, was Releaſed, and is now in purſuit of the Diſcharge of the Writ, and ſo of his Bayl.

Here follows the Copies of ſeveral Letters written by *Mrs. Jones* and *Mrs. Pigeon* to old *Mr. Goodwin*, as they were found in his Study after his death; which Letters, with ſeveral Locks of *Mrs. Jones* her Hair, remain in the hands of *Mr. Samuel Vernon* at the lower end of St. *Mary-Axes*, for all that deſire to peruſe; and good proof upon Oath, that theſe Letters are their own hand-writing.

The Firſt is a Letter from *Mrs. Lydia Walſal*, the elder Siſter to theſe Women, and late Wife to Doctor *Walſal* of *Sandy* in *Bedfordſhire*, directed to *Mr. Goodwin*.

My very much eſteemed good Brother,

I Am very glad to hear of your health, and the health of yours: but ſorry to hear your oppreſsion of buſineſſe: the Lord for his Chriſts ſake, either increaſe ſtrength, or take off trouble. Brother, I much thank you for your good leave to enjoy my good Siſter, by whoſe means I have received eaſe: I hope I ſhall find more good: and beſides I am not yet ſatisfied with her good Company, and therefore beg your leave that I may enjoy

enjoy her one week more at least, that we may be refreshed each by other, for hitherto my poor dear Sister hath done nothing but toyled: If you receive her two inches less in the waste, who can help it? For up betime she will, and to her day-labour, but her Wages must come from Heaven, for I can never requite her Love and pains: My Husband and good Sister remember their Loves.

Your ever loving Sister,
Lydia Walsal.

Can any other Inference be made from this, than that *Mrs Jones* was either *Mr. Goodwins* Wife, which (for that her Husband is yet alive) she cannot lawfully be, or his Concubine; such Embraces can hardly allow any other construction: but *Mrs. Pigeons* distinction salves all; *Mr.* Jones *is her Husband by the unjust Law of man, and Mr.* Goodwin *her Husband in the sight of God.*

The next is from *Mrs Jones.*

HOnoured Sir, I have been much troubled about my leaving you, and could wish my self with you again if I could, because I was never more restlesse than now: let me receive a Word or two from you, it may be that may a little satisfie me, which shall for ever engage me to you.

Your faithful friend,
Michetabel Jones.

This agrees with the former from *Mrs. Walsal,* and confirms there was a secret union between them.

Another from *Mrs. Jones,* and hath for Superscription, *To my dear Sister,* (*Mrs.* Montague *at* Otkingham; but the in-side Contents are,

GOod Mr. Goodwin, I desire to hear how you do, and how you have digested your double meat of two Gooses:

Gooſes: truly one will ſtick by you longer than I hope the other will ſtick in your ſtomack: however the ribs of one is devoured by you, yet the other will ſtick by the ribs, and be as the rib taken forth of the left-ſide, ever before you, bone of your bone and fleſh of your fleſh: ſo I reſt.

Yours to ſerve you,

Mehetabel Jones.

This wants a Commentary in a Letter written by *Mrs. Mountague*, there is mention of a Gooſe ſent as a preſent to be eaten by the two Siſters and *Mr. Goodwin*, it ſhould ſeem in their merriment *Mr. Goodwin* jeſtingly called *Mrs. Jones* Gooſe, a word frequent with him; and upon this *Mrs. Jones* writes this Letter, and now riddle my riddle.

A Fourth Letter from her ſayes,

GOod Brother, I had a wearisome journey: yet if I could have poſsibly got my Siſters leave, I had come to London as this day: truly my heart is there; for I am willing as the Lord hath commanded, to help to bear your burthen more then formerly: having recovered a little breath, I am willing to draw in this eaſie yoke of Chriſt, if it muſt be ſo, but humbly beſeech him to make it ſomewhat eaſier than it hath been: *viz.* When ſhe lived with her Husband *Jones*: here is adultery and blaſphemy together. The reſt of this Letter is a parcel of inſtructions in a Religious dreſſe, whereby ſhe captivated the ſilly old man; but being tedious and impertinent, I omit them.

In a Fifth ſhe ſaith,

HOnoured Sir, I wiſh I could conveniently write at this time to you: but I thought fit to let you know, That I fear it is intended that your Couſin Armſtrong ſhall ſerve in Richards place. I doubt not but the Lord will give you wiſdom and directions in all things; which ſhall be the Prayer of

Your faithful friend till death,

Mehetabel Jones.

This

This Letter was written seven years agone, by which you see they governed all at the Dye-house long before they came there; for a beck from her, or her Sister, was a Command to him; indeed *Richard Armstrong* was one that hated their practises upon *Mr. Goodwin*, and therefore though an excellent Workman, must not be entertained.

And that you may further see how they governed him, in a Sixth she saith,

SIR, if any one whosoever should send for you, or come to speak with you, know they do it to intrap you: I pray if so, go not to them, till you come to me: but if you hear not from any, I shall not look for you till to morrow in the afternoon.

This is the same hand, but hath neither Super, nor Subscription; was ever poor man so barnacled with a cunning Strumpet? let the businesse be of what consequence soever, he must not speak with any till he have consulted with her, and have her leave; it should appear that some of her Roguery was now in danger of discovery.

In a Seventh, she sayes,

HOnoured Sir, The Lord hath made our journey very comfortable: but now I fear our return will be imbittered by the want of that, which of all earthly things is most desired, *viz.* Mr. Goodwins company: It will not be convenient for us to come to you in regard of many satisfactory reasons which I can give you: Dear Sir, let us see you.

And in a Post-script *Mrs. Pigeon* writes thus,

SIR, Now God hath put you to the Tryal of the strength you thought you had: you said you could submit to the Will of God though it should be the losse of your

your dearest Friend (*viz.* her Sister *Jones*) now therefore chear up, and know this stroak is the love and good will of our dear Father: I need say no more.

Do you not think that Dame *Celestina*, the famous Spanish Bawd, was a Fool in comparison of *Mrs. Pigeon?* she wanted this rare art of Canting in a Religious tone: the sum of all is, That about this time *Mrs. Jones* by the Justices and *Mr. Kiffins* Church, was warned out of *Mr. Goodwins* company, and had engaged to them to refrain it because of the Scandal. Now see how *Mrs. Pigeon* can dress this trade of Harlotry, thereby to cajole the conscience of this deluded old man.

The Eighth from *Mrs. Jones.*

WOrthy Sir, whom I do truly honor, let me beseech you have a special care of taking cold, or working to morrow: our next neighbor is dead of a looseness, consider your age and weakness. I have been very ill, but am something better: since I heard from you I have sent you a Waistcoat, pray send me word if you will wear it. I exceedingly fear your falling into a Feaver, if you take pains before you have recovered your strength. Your faithful friend,

M. Jones.

Who would not part with Estate, Credit, Children, Friends, a good Conscience and all, to keep such a friend in a corner? So truly saith *Solomon*, *The lips of a strange Woman drop as a honey Comb, and her mouth is more soft than oyl.* The tongues of these two Sisters being tipt with, Dear Sir; Honoured Sir; Precious Sir; and pretending to admire his wisedom, while they laugh in their sleeves to see his extreme weakness and credulity. But by these arts they held him fast and were admired, while his Children and friends that dealt plainly with him, were reviled and scorned.

Yet

Yet again this Cogging Huswife in a Ninth.

EVer honored Sir, Dear Brother, I humbly beseech you not to be offended at my going so suddenly away, for the truth is, I was necessitated to go to the farther end of the Garden, (viz. The House of Office) and then my Sister Mountague fell instantly sick, so sick that she thought she should have died, so that I was forced to be with her a little, but instantly I came down: Sir, I beseech you that I may speak with you: please not to trouble your self for any thing whatsoever: for if you know as much as I, you would rejoyce: Take heed of your Son Andrew.

Thus Harlots and Hypocrites discover their rotten hearts while they over do: Is not this a strange obsequiousness that *Mrs. Jones* cannot go to unburthen Nature but she must Apologize for it: What a dutiful Concubine is *Mr. Goodwin* like to have. But all this Dissembling is but to prepare him for the close, to alienate him from his children.

Once again in a Tenth Letter.

SIR, I hear that Mr. Tarleton is to be to morrow at Mr. Vernons, I beseech you give me leave to put you in remembrance of your former wise discreet Carriage, never to be forgotten, which was when you have been in the like Surprisal: First, A Reserved strangenesse: Secondly, Not to enter the Lists of Argument: Thirdly, If they come directly upon you, either to intrap you, or else to Examine or Charge you with that which you are not willing to disclose, or justifie to them the lawfulness of (viz. The Adulterous Contract with her) then I have observed your Serpentine wisdom to daunt their boldness with a seeming angry displeasure, fenced with Resolution to seek Wisdom from the Wise and wonderful Counsellor, in such matters wherein his Glory and your good

is so nearly concerned, (viz. His Marriage with her) Sir, this hath been the Armor wherewith the Lord hath destroyed all their Goliahs, Counsels, Plots, and Stratagems: I hope a Monitor will be doubly welcome to you, which brings no Reproof, but an Olive-branch, a Remembrance, or Memorial of your former Vertues: for such a friend I remain,

Michetabel Jones.

Was there ever such a Trepan, such glavering in a bold dissembling Woman, and such obtuse folly in an old man; at one time she tells him there hath not lived a wiser man than he since King *Solomon*: and in this rabble of impudent nonsense of *Serpentine Wisdom, and discreet Carriage, never to be forgotten*; and yet thus laden with deep understanding, he must have an inchanted pad-lock hung upon his lips, not be trusted to utter one word: and being thus clawed with imputation of wisdom, as it is strange to see how greedily weak and shallow persons do affect to be accompted wise; and this was one of the snares they held him fast with: you would wonder how exactly he would follow those directions: Urge what you would, ask him twenty questions, not a word. At this very meeting, being earnestly pressed about the Contract with this Woman, by my self and others; *Mr. Goodwin*, Are you married to mistris *Jones*? are you Contracted to her? and such questions as he was not willing to disclose to us, or justifie the lawfulness of them, as *Mrs. Jones* saith, With a Reserved strangeness, and a seeming angry displeasure, fenced with Resolution to be wholly guided by *Mrs. Jones*, his wife and wonderful Counsellour, it being a matter that so nearly concerned; their being preserved from shameful Punishment; did he with silence and frowns answer all our demands: So that you would have thought him inchanted.

The

The Eleventh is a Copy of a Letter written with *Mrs. Jones* own hand, with direction to *Mr. Goodwin* to transcribe, and send it to her Sister *Pigeon* as from himself, and begins thus,

Mistris *Pigeon*,

THrough the unusual, unheard of, unnatural dealing of my Children, who joyning with my Son Andrew, and using his Name and Power, which Power was given him for his and my Good, to be used for the good of the Trade: But he drawn aside by his own evil Heart, and the temptations of Satan, and seduced and seconded by his wicked Brethren and Sisters, whom the Prince of Darkness hath used as his Instruments to bring upon me all these sore Calamities as are visible this day, which as I think I may say my Case is without compare, & that in my old age (excepting Davids and Jobs) But not to reason with flesh and blood, in that although I would say it were far better to have them taken away Obedient Children, then to have them live as Absolom as mine does, and their Printed Libels does witness (God knowing my innocence, to whom I appeal as a Righteous Judge) But I leave all this as a long parenthesis and come to the Business: When they were thus suffered to be Scourges, Scourges said I, nay Vipers, Scorpions, endeavoring to eat out the Bowels from whence they proceeded, then the Lord God used you as the only means to keep me from a visible Ruine, as far as the eye of Reason could reach: Now therefore my desire is, if you have any farther thoughts towards me, through your love and tenderness, That you would not do any thing for me in any of my Childrens Names how Obedient soever at present: for I had far more Cause of Hopes of those that have endeavored my Ruine then hitherto of James: I therefore desire that you would do that which you shall do for me in those Names that you can Trust and Confide, neither shall I now nominate any for

sufficient Reasons known to my self (viz to Mrs. *Jones*) and having found your faithfulness all along, I leave to you, desiring you to Nominate whom you shall think fit: only this I desire, That the Power I have formerly had in the House I now dwell in, may be continued to me, and Notice given me when things are settled: and I shall leave it in Writing how my Desire is, That that Estate I shall have, shall be Disposed of after my Death: for which, I shall have great Cause to Remain,

Your thankful Friend.

This Letter is a Compendium of all the Villany these Women have acted; where first you plainly see how they governed this poor weak man at their pleasure, making him own all their wicked Projects and Designs, as if they were his own Desires. See here how they to accomplish their own purpose the better, to fil his heart with bitterness against all his Children: No marvel when his Daughter *Vernon* several times upon her knees with tears in her eyes, hath besought him to refrain the scandalous Society of these Women, she could obtain no better answer then, You are a cursed *Cham*: And thus did they whet him continually against them, that so they might possesse him and all his Estate. Again, see with what Atheistical boldness they direct him to appeal to God of his innocency, when their own hand Writing discovers to all the world, that the bottom was an Adulterous Contract with *Mrs. Jones*, and manifest injustice and cruelty to all his Children; by their appointment stripping them of that which by the Law of God and of Nature belonged to them: and see how blasphemously they paint all this with Religion. Again, see how they make him grosly Lye, to pleasure and justifie them, when they had been eight years plotting to cheat him of all his Estate, and have now effected it; then must this poor besotted Creature tell *Mrs. Pigeon*, That the Lord God raised her to keep him from Ruine: This is the sublime Art of Trepanning, to gull a man of an Estate of 2000. l. and then make him write a long Epistle of Gratulation, and slavish Acknowledgement of her

Love

Love and tenderneſs. Here alſo you plainly ſee *James Goodwin* was uſed as a meer Property; he muſt (a ſilly young School-Boy, though to his utter Ruine, the ſcandal of Religion) be married to *Lydda Jones*, a ſhe Babby, that ſo theſe Women may have a door opened to get in, and throw out *Andrew* and his Father, and poſſeſſe all the Eſtate: and this no ſooner done, but *Mrs. Pigeon* calls him Loggerhead and Puppy; and *Mrs. Jones* his Mother directs his Father to exclaim againſt him in this Letter to *Mrs. Pigeon*. You ſee alſo how ſhe directs *Mr. Goodwin* to beg of *Mrs. Pigeon* that as ſhe had hitherto cheated him, ſo ſhe would go on and perfect this model of Theevery. Laſtly, you ſee what proviſion *Mrs. Jones* makes, that nothing after his Death may come to his Children; he muſt reſerve a Power in the houſe, that at his death he may bequeath it to her, which accordingly he performed by his Nuncupative Will on his death-bed, deſiring the Houſe might go to his dear Siſter *Jones*.

Now having made him do all this dutiful drudgery, to make him amends, ſhe writes him a Love Letter which begins thus.

MY D P. H. *viz.* My dear precious Heart. My D K. H. *viz.* My dear kind Heart, I much deſire to ſee you, which let me when your firſt opportunity will permit, and ſpare ſo much time from your ſleep while as to write a large Epiſtle, not in Characters, but at large in long-hand, not with H. and C till death: but in words at large and full, ſo full, as may put me fully in a whole Sheet filled on both ſides, which ſhall be more welcome to me than my Winding-ſheet, and be the Meſſenger your ſelf, (elſe, how ſhall the Sheet be filled on both ſides?) ſo you ſhall not fear miſcarrying: I have wanted ſuch Sheets long: and truly, now I long for ſuch a Sheet brought with your hand, which ſhall be moſt kindly welcome: and for which if you bring, I ſhall ever be yours till death.

This Letter is ſubject to a double conſtruction, if in charity you will take the literal meaning, why does ſhe ſo urge

over.

over and over for him to come in perſon; but I leave every man to his freedom, and make the beſt of it you can; it is ſtark naught, and wicked.

And further, that the old man may ſee ſhe is all on flame in Love to him, ſhe is turned Poet, and inſpired with a Bottle of Sage-Ale, ſhe greets him in theſe ſtrains.

We have drunk your Ale, and for it ſend
the commendations of your deareſt friend;
although the liquor be but ſmall,
the givers Gift doth equal all.
This is the Gift which you did ſend,
grave pyt-baked Sage-ale to your friend:
but as you ſent it in good part,
ſo drank it we, with all our heart.
In drinking it, we did remember
him that was the Bottle ſender.
If me you blame for want of wit,
it was the Ale that out with it.
And with the Bottle back I have ſent,
for him that wants more then is ſpent.

Your Friend, *Mehetabel Jones.*

Who can blame poor *Mr. Godwin* for telling his Daughter *Vernon*, That his former Wife deſerved not to be named the ſame day with her, ſhe could not Poetiſe and ſcratch Ribaldry Rhymns till they bleed again. Many other parcels of her venereous Poetry I finde, but being hob nayl tattered ſtuffe I omit; only beg leave for one Sample more of her inchanting Madrigals; which with a parcel of her Hair richly perfumed (though all will not keep it from ſtinking) was found with the reſt; and thus it Chimes, forth:

Accept this Bracelet from your friend,
the owner knows it is your due,
becauſe ſhe belongeth unto you.
This paper read, let it ſee the flame;
if you grant not this, you are to blame:

For

For she that writ it, would for you
burn paper, and her fingers too
to light your snuff; which she has done,
and burnt both fingers and her thumbe.
Burn it, then your friend I will rest;
if not, say not you love her best:
The hours I count, the minutes too,
make haste, farewel, adieu, adieu.

Here is a Stanza of thirteen to the dozen: might not this think you be sung to the tune of

Down Turn-bull street as she did passe,
she heard a Bird sing in a Glende,
the chiefest of whose Note it was,
no pleasure to a bounteous friend, in a corner.

But set jesting apart, here you do plainly see by *Mrs. Jones* her own acknowledgement, what Propriety *Mr. Goodwin* had in her: again, here she vaunts her practises upon his old age by lighting his snuff with her Adulterous intic-ements. And lastly, see how in a secret consciousnes of her wickedness she directs him to burn her Letters, that her wicked deeds might not come to light.

I conclude wth a Letter from Mrs. *Pigeon*, the great architect of all this villany, written with her own hand for Mr *Goodwin*, with order to transcribe it & send it to Mr *Warenp* the Bayliff of the Burrough; for not only *Mr. Goodwins* tongue, but his hands must be crampt, and he must not dare to write one word but by their Copies, though as wise as *Solomon*, they dare not trust him with the least service, which by the way confirms me in the opinion, That when the Project was brought to examination before the Commissioners, they saw an absolute necessity of his being translated to another world. The Letter begins thus:

MUch honored Sir, being Coheirs with me of my gray-haires, it is my great encouragement to be-seech

seech you to end this strife, and at least to Repay my two third parts of the Goods taken in Execution by the Son of my own Loyns, taken by me into Copartnership in a Third of my Trade, and the Stock given by my self: Know Sir, it was to have Rest in my old age by him who is the saddest Trouble: Now God hath made you my Umpier, for the Lords sake let it be such as may not bring my gray Hairs with Sorrow and Suits to the Grave; but with Peace give me back my two Thirds, for which I shall say, Let a Blessing rest on the head of yours for the sake of Your Servant,

Wessel Goodwin.

Thus though this Serpent wind in secret pathes, upon the Rock in many places her slime discovers her: You have heard before, how *Andrew Goodwin* being in that manner cast out, confess'd a Judgement to a Creditor, and the Goods thereupon taken in Execution, and by *Mrs. Pigeons* Craft undervalued and sold by the Bayliff to *Hen. Coleborn* for 403.l. of which the Creditor Recovered only the one Third part; and *Mrs. Pigeon* by this Letter procures the other two parts to be paid back to her; and accordingly she Received it, pretending for *Mr. Goodwin.* But what should fools do with money: let *Mr. Coleborn* and *Mrs. Pigeon* have money that are wise and subtile, and know how to improve it.

Many other Letters to this purpose there are from *Mrs. Pigeon* and *Mrs. Jones*, but fearing to nauseate the Reader with this gear, I forbear. I shall conclude with *Mrs. Pigeon*, and as it is a custome in forrein parts when notorious malefactors have by some stratagem escaped the hand of Justice, then they draw their picture as near as may be to the life, which being fixed upon publick places of Execution, gives notice to all men what manner of person he was, that so he may be discovered: So will I, as near as I can, draw *Mrs. Pigeons* picture, which I refer to all to judge: for her outward Person, she is somewhat taller than the ordinary size of women, a little thick shouldered, and inclining to

fatnesse;

fatneſſe; indeed her out-ſide is tolerable, were it beautified with an honeſter mind. In this and the former Relation you may judge ſomewhat of her Nature by her practiſes, but all that falls ſhort, nor is it poſſible to deſcribe all the furniture of that dark Charnel-houſe of ſin: 'tis true that ſhe hath very good naturall endowments, an excellent memory to retain, a quick fancy to invent, an eloquent tongue to perſwade, which improved in honeſt actions would much adorn her; but being abuſed, to deceive, to work miſchief, ſpoyl, ruine, and as is feared, murder alſo, renders her but ſo much more guilty to God, and hatefull to all good men: theſe abilities joyned with her artificiall helps, as an inſinuating geſture, harmonious accent in ſpeech, tears, ſmiles, deep ſighs, ſhutting her eys as if ſhe were the contracted model of piety and modeſty: theſe will ſhe uſe with ſuch cunning advantage, that ſhe creeps into the boſoms of many that hear her, and with theſe ſhe hath been heard to ſay, ſhe can make a fool of the wiſeſt man alive: and when ſhe hath bleared and muffled the underſtandings of thoſe that hearken to her; ſhe turns her about to her Goſſips, and brags how ſhe hath caught them. She hath the skill to obſerve all tempers, and frames her ſpeech, geſture, actions futably, ſhe will endeavour to catch a wiſe man with ſophiſticated Reaſon, as *Mr. Hen. Coleborn*; a weak man with a pretended love and care of their good, as *Mr Goodwin*; a covetous man with bribes, as *Mr. H*; a cholerick man with provocation, as *Mr. Pigeon*; yet notably commanding her own temper, ſo that as I have ſeen her, eſpecially when ſhe hath ſome Web of miſchief upon the Loom, let the injured perſon vilifie her never ſo much with upbraiding of her wickedneſs, call her never ſo many uncouth Names, ſhe diſcovers no more paſſion then if ſhe underſtood not one word of what is ſpoken.

A Religious man ſhe orders as ſhe pleaſes, let him be of what Principle he will, ſhe will turn her ſelf into ſuch an Angel of light, that he ſhall cry out, ſhe is a moſt Angelical Creature; Would ſhe work a Revenge (as ſhe is of a moſt vindictive nature) ſhe conſiders what defamations are moſt eaſily received, and hardeſt to wipe off; amongſt others, her moſt frequent is, Such a man took Phyſick, his wife knew not of it, it muſt needs be the French Pox; and to perſons of whom was never the leaſt cauſe of ſuch ſuſpition, ſhe will ſay before company, Have you never had the French Pox? ſpeak as in the ſight of God: let them Reply what they will, ſome dirt will ſtick; ſhe is the very

Proteus of this age, can ſhape her ſelf into all forms; in one Company ſpeak of nothing but heaven; in another, as at *Iſlington* before good company, call for a filthy bawdy ſong; nay, ſhe can make every thing about her act a part; would ſhe win compaſſion from her Judg, ſhe appears all in mourning, melting like *Niobe* in tears; nay, where it may ſtand her in ſtead, by art can make her face as black as her garments, as tis affirmed ſhe did before the Court Martial; but if ſhe be before ſuch as ſhe thinks another bait may take better, ſhe will appear in gorgeous Apparel, her neck and breſts bare, her complexion beyond a natural fairneſſe; theſe are ſome of her Moral parts: I conclude with her Religion, which to tell you what it is, were to ſhape a Coat for the Moon; and as one ſaith, 'Tis impoſſible to draw a face that is ſo often varied. I have thought ſometimes, that had ſhe been of the Maſculine Sex, ſhe is rightly qualified for a dangerous Heretick. She is Proud, Wilful, Eloquent, and vafrous; with theſe ſhe hath run through all the forms of theſe times, and having examined their Principles how they would trend and ſquare with her Projects, hath quitted one after another, and is now ſetled in Quakeriſm, which ſhe extols for the only way that fits her deſigns; in this fond way there is a Principle that carries it ſmooth, a declining of the written Word of God for an infallible rule of Practiſe, and therefore (as was proved before the Commiſſioners) ſhe ſaid ſhe cared not if the Bible were burnt: and being guided by a light within, Ah, quoth *Mrs. Pigeon*, here's a way fits me; I have a light within that directs me to Renounce my Husband, make another mans eſtate my own, to rob, ſpoyl, ruine, work miſchief, murder, any thing, the light within guides me to it, and warrants me in it: As for that other Principle of the ſimpler ſort of Quakers, of making Reſtitution, that is to be imputed to their ignorance, being but Babes in knowledge to me; and their weakneſs is to be pitied. Theſe are ſome few life-touches, by which you may know *Mrs. Pigeon*.

POSTSCRIPT.

POSTSCRIPT.

THus have you seen the sad Catastrophe of poor Mr. *Wessel Goodwin*, who (as I said before) after almost forty yeares painful labour, with the assistance of a most vertuous wife, in an honest Calling, having gathered an Estate of between two and three thousand pounds, by the pestilent flattery and delusive insinuations of these two sisters stript of all, insomuch that he was not at his death in a capacity to give six pence to any one of his dutiful children: and since his death, so boundlesse hath been their malice and covetousnes, that with the advice of Mr. *H.* the Aturney, they have proceeded to a total devastation; and to this purpose having sold and conveyed away all the Dying Wares, they next fall upon the Houshold Goods, plunder all away to the bare walls, yea, the very Linnen and Pewter, old Mrs *Goodwin* at her death, had with her husbands consent, shared amongst her children, was with the rest, all swept away; and for the last mark of their whoorish cruelty, they break up all the Coppers, the leaden Cisternes, dig up the very pipes of lead that lay deep under ground, and when any scrupled to buy these Goods, Mr. *H.* presently presents himselfe to secure their bargain, and so having made havock of all, they deliver up the key to the Land-lady, as forfeit into her hands, that so nothing might return to the Children.

Prov. 5. *v.* 3, 4.

FINIS.